

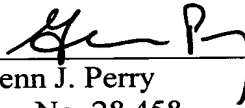
REMARKS

By the present amendment, Applicants have amended the specification to merely clarify the description of the invention, added new claims 31-37 and amended claims 1, 2, 5, 6, 7, 10, 13, 14, 15, 17, 18, 21, 22, 23, 25, 28, 29 and 30 to merely clarify the claimed invention. No new matter has been added. Claims 1-30 are pending. Allowance in view of the foregoing amendment and the following remarks are respectfully requested.

Attached hereto as an attached Appendix captioned "Version with markings to show changes made" is a marked-up version of the changes made to the claims by the current amendment.

Respectfully submitted,

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APPENDIX

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

The specification is changed as follows:

Change the paragraph beginning on page 1, line 9 as follows:

People love to share photos. No more is this principle more evident than in the new age of digital photos whether these digital photos are made by traditional film cameras and then converted into digital photos by, for example, a scanner or made with a digital camera[.]. Moreover, sharing of photos is popular [and] irrespective of the format (JPEG (Joint Photographic Experts Group), BMP (Bitmap), TIF (Tagged Image File), etc.) of these digital photo files. Digital photos are now sent as e-mail attachments, posted on Web sites, shared over instant messaging networks and on and on.

Change the paragraphs bridging pages 3 and 4 as follows:

In an embodiment, a method for location-based image sharing is provided. A sharing rule is provided. The sharing rule defines with which one or more recipients images are shared based on location-identifying information. Location-identifying information associated with an image is provided to the sharing rule to determine the one or more recipients with which the image should be shared. There is also provided, in another embodiment, a system for location-based image sharing. Again, a sharing rule defines with which one or more recipients images are shared based on location-identifying information. A sharing engine applies location-identifying information associated with an image to the sharing rule to determine the one or more recipients with which the image should be shared. Furthermore, in another embodiment, there is provided a computer program product

including computer program code to cause a [microprocessor] processor to perform a method for location-based image sharing. The method comprises providing a sharing rule defining with which one or more recipients images are shared based on location-identifying information, and applying location-identifying information associated with an image to the sharing rule to determine the one or more recipients with which the image should be shared. In another embodiment, a computer program product is provided. The program product includes computer program code, which when executed, causes a [microprocessor] processor to perform a method of sharing an image based on location-identifying information associated with it. The method includes determining a recipient of the image based upon the location-identifying information, and making the image available to the recipient.

Change the paragraph beginning on page 6, line 7 as follows:

The location-identifying information, whether in its original form or in the form of relevant location data, is then applied 250 to one or more sharing rules 140, if any are applicable 240, to determine to which one or more recipients an image should be made available. For example, a sharing rule may define that all images taken in Seattle, Washington should be shared with a particular recipient (e.g. James) or group(s) of recipients. Referring to FIG. 1, location-identifying information in the form of location data Seattle, Washington is applied to two sharing rules, namely “Share Seattle, Washington images with James” and “Share John’s house images with John.” Since the location-identifying information only satisfies one of those two sharing rules, namely “Share Seattle, Washington images with [John] James”, the image related to the location-identifying information is only made available to [John] James (subject to any other rules or conditions as discussed below). The location-identifying information may also be useful for addition to a location database, if implemented i.e. Seattle, Washington may have been identified manually and the location-

identifying information along with the manually identified location data may be added to a location database for use with an implemented location-identifying information conversion feature.

Change the paragraph beginning on page 7, line 15 as follows:

If one or more sharing rules are satisfied and one or more recipients are determined from the application of location-identifying information to the sharing (and other, if any) rule(s) 260, the image pertaining to the location-identifying information is made available to each of the recipients as specified by the [complied with] satisfied sharing (and other, if any) rule(s) 150, 270. In an embodiment, sending information for the recipient(s) e.g. e-mail addresses is determined and then the image, along with perhaps other images determined to be sent to the recipient, is sent electronically by e-mail to each of the recipient(s) as specified by [complied with] the satisfied sharing rules and for which sending information is available. Such sending of e-mails may be automatic (in that the e-mail is generated and sent to the recipient(s) without significant or any user intervention) or manual and optionally, the user may be offered the choice to decline sending the image to one or more of the determined recipients. Alternatively, a link to the image on a Web site could be sent instead of the image itself. The image (or link) could also be sent by other electronic transmission means such as instant messaging. As will be apparent to those skilled in the art, the image may also simply be made available on a portion of a Web site designated for the recipient and which the recipient may access.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the following claims:

1. (Amended) A method for location-based image sharing, comprising:

[providing] defining a sharing rule that specifies [defining] with which one or more recipients images are shared based on location-identifying information; and

applying location-identifying information associated with an image to the sharing rule to determine the one or more recipients with which the image should be shared.

2. (Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

making the image [available automatically] automatically available to the determined one or more recipients.

5. (Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the location-identifying information [is] comprises latitude and longitude coordinates.

6. (Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the image is at least one of [either] a digital photo [or] and a digital video.

7. (Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the sharing rule specifies [any one] at least one of a proximity to the location-identifying information, a set of location-identifying information [or] and a bounding perimeter of location-identifying information.

10. (Amended) The system of claim 9, further comprising:

a sending unit to make the image [available automatically] automatically available to the determined one or more recipients.

13. (Amended) The system of claim 9 wherein the location-identifying information [is] comprises latitude and longitude coordinates.

14. (Amended) The system of claim 9 wherein the image is [either] at least one of a digital photo [or] and a digital video.

15. (Amended) The system of claim 9 wherein the sharing rule specifies [any one] at least one of a proximity to the location-identifying information, a set of location-identifying information [or] and a bounding perimeter of location-identifying information.

17. (Amended) A computer program product including computer program code to cause a [microprocessor] processor to perform a method for location-based image sharing, the method comprising:

[providing] defining a sharing rule [defining] that specifies with which one or more recipients images are shared based on location-identifying information; and

applying location-identifying information associated with an image to the sharing rule to determine the one or more recipients with which the image should be shared.

18. (Amended) The computer program product of claim 17, wherein the method further comprises making the image [available automatically] automatically available to the determined one or more recipients.

21. (Amended) The computer program product of claim 17 wherein the location-identifying information [is] comprises latitude and longitude coordinates.

22. (Amended) The computer program product of claim 17 wherein the image is [either] at least one of a digital photo [or] and a digital video.

23. (Amended) The computer program product of claim 17 wherein the sharing rule specifies [any one] at least one of a proximity to the location-identifying information, a set of location-identifying information [or] and a bounding perimeter of location-identifying information.

25. (Amended) A computer program product including computer program code to cause a [microprocessor] processor to perform a method of sharing an image having location-identifying information, the method comprising:

determining a recipient of the image based upon the location-identifying information;
and
making the image available to the recipient.

28. (Amended) The computer program product of claim 25 wherein the location-identifying information [is] comprises latitude and longitude coordinates.

29. (Amended) The computer program product of claim 25 wherein the image is [either] at least one of a digital photo [or] and a digital video.

30. (Amended) The computer program product of claim 25 wherein the sharing rule specifies [any one] at least one of a proximity to the location-identifying information, a set of

location-identifying information [or] and a bounding perimeter of location-identifying information.